

Camp near Pottsgrove 24th Sept 1777

my dear Mary

I know your anxiety must be great and I wish to relieve it as far as in my power and time will permit. I wrote on the 19th instant from near Philadelphia giving you an account of the Battle of Brandywine: and inform'd you that we should again advance over the Schuylkill & try the fortune of another combat - we crossed the Schuylkill on the 23th and advanced to the Bank Tavern, the 15th we march'd as far as the Warren where we halted. on the morning of the 16th intelligence was brought that the enemy had march'd all night and were within 3 miles, four advanced guards and were rapidly endeavoring to gain our right flank, a number of which they are exceedingly fond of turning our flanks. — we immediately drew up in order of battle and reinforced our outposts which were soon attack'd — We remain'd in order of battle for some hours waiting the attack But the enemy seeing our position declin'd it. In the interim a most violent rain came on and continued for 10 or 12 hours without intermission — This oblig'd us to change our position and march on the night

we, had we attempted to have defended all parts
of this River we should have acted unwisely and
I could tell an easy conquest to the enemy
— His Excellency very wisely has kept his force as
much together as possible — on the night of
the 20th The enemy surprised the one guard of
General Wayne who was left on the other side of
the river, and threw his Division in to some
Confusion, the Contest was severe with Wayne's
Genl. Wayne changed his front but the enemy
did not think proper to attack him in that
position — his loss about 100 killed and wounded
his men and officers behaved with the utmost
intrepidity — Genl. Inneswood with a body
of Maryland Militia was at the same
time attacked and thrown into some confusion

— These troops will join us today —
as will Genl. McDougal with a body
of troops from Pickensville and Genl.
Pickens for him the Jerkies — we
shall this day advance towards Philadelphia
and when our force is collected by
the

of another appeal — Philadelphia is an
open town situated on a point of land formed
by the Rivers Delaware and Schuylkill. The
enemies ships have not yet got above the
Forts and obstructions in the river. Our
naval force is pretty large and if well conducted
will make it a work of time —
— if Mr Hovens troops push into Philadelphia
without ships we hope to render his
situation exceedingly dangerous — Our troops are
in good spirits and will fight well — Mr
Leclercq informs me he has advised your
Patience — I must caution you against
too much baggage — Let your men
have blankets and warm clothing for
you will get nothing here — Your
Commissaries you see receive here
Dear My Darling
Your affectionate friend
M

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